The Accountant-General has not yet reported to Government on the financial implications of the stoppage, as mentioned in the letter referred to.

(b) According to an Inspection report furnished by the Accountant-General in July 1928 docking and repair charges incurred on the dredger "St. David" during the period of 3½ years referred to works out to Rs. 6,000 approximately for 1926–27 and 1927–28 and in addition there is a recurring monthly expenditure of about Rs. 35 towards the wages of watchmen, etc.

(c) The steps to be taken depend on the decision as to the future work to be undertaken at Tuticorin.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"May I know who will shoulder the burden of 162½ lakhs for expenditure on the Harbour Works?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"The Port Conservancy Board ultimately."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Is there a Port Trust Board at Tuticorin?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"There is a Port Trust Board."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Have the Government made enquiries whether the Port Trust of Tuticorin are prepared to shoulder this burden?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"That is under correspondence, I think."

Assignment of Lands

Area of land reserved in the village of Chitrap, Mangalore taluk, for common village purposes.

* 103 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to my question No. 1350 answered on 1st February 1929, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the area was in the village of Chitrap, Mangalore taluk, South Kanara, which has been reserved for common village purposes, grazing or straying about of cattle, for the meeting place of the villagers for recreation and other purposes, apart from roads and footpaths, before the recent assignments to particular communities;

(b) what area out of this village or common or waste has been assigned to depressed classes, Mogers (fishermen by caste), Billavars (tappers by caste) or any other community;

(c) whether any area and if so what remains at least for the roaming about of cattle and for other common purposes of villages after such assignments and apart from public village roads and paths, public schools and taverns;

(d) whether in 1925 the Collector had refused assignment of any portion of this waste on the ground that it was the only available waste in the village;

(e) if so, under what circumstances and for what reasons plots have been assigned to the three communities;

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(*f*) whether many of the villagers including Hindus and Christians have appealed to Government against the assignments on the above ground and that it will add to the insanitary condition of the village; and

(*g*) if so, what action have Government taken thereon?

A.—(*a*) 14·91 acres was formerly reserved for these purposes.

(*b*) On the 19th April 1929 the Collector reported that no part of this land had been assigned to any one, but certain areas had been reserved for assignment to the Mogers, Billavars and Adi-Dravidas as noted below :—

Mogers	3·52 acres.
Billavars	3·54 ,,
Adi-Dravidas	3·01 ,,

(*c*) 4·84 acres.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The extents mentioned have been set aside for assignment to the classes mentioned in the answer to clause (*b*) in pursuance of the policy of Government to assign lands to the depressed and poorer classes. The Mogers and Billavars belong to the locality. The extents proposed for assignment are not fit for use as a grazing ground as even after rain they are covered with only scanty herbage not affording much nourishment to cattle.

(*f*) Yes.

(*g*) The Government have declined to interfere with the orders of the Collector.

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—"With reference to clause (*e*) of this question, may I enquire whether the Government are prepared to give lands to the poorer classes of other communities than those mentioned in the answer?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—"I cannot say whether in any particular case they would or would not. In this case there were particular reasons. The fishermen were living in the immediate vicinity."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—"May I know from the hon. the Revenue Member whether the Government, before reserving this land for the depressed classes, ascertained whether it was fit for cultivation at all?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—"I wish to have notice of the question."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—"May I further enquire whether apart from the scanty herbage growing on this land, any representations have been made by the people of the locality that more land is necessary for the cattle to stray about for physical exercise? (Laughter.)"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—"No, Sir."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—"May I know from the hon. the Revenue Member whether he will enquire into the fitness of the land for cultivation and if it is not fit for cultivation . . . ?"

The hon. the President :—"That is a hypothetical question."

Mr. K. R. Karant :—"With reference to clause (*c*), may I know whether the 4·84 acres do not consist of lanes and pathways and no land at all?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell :—"I must ask for notice of the question."